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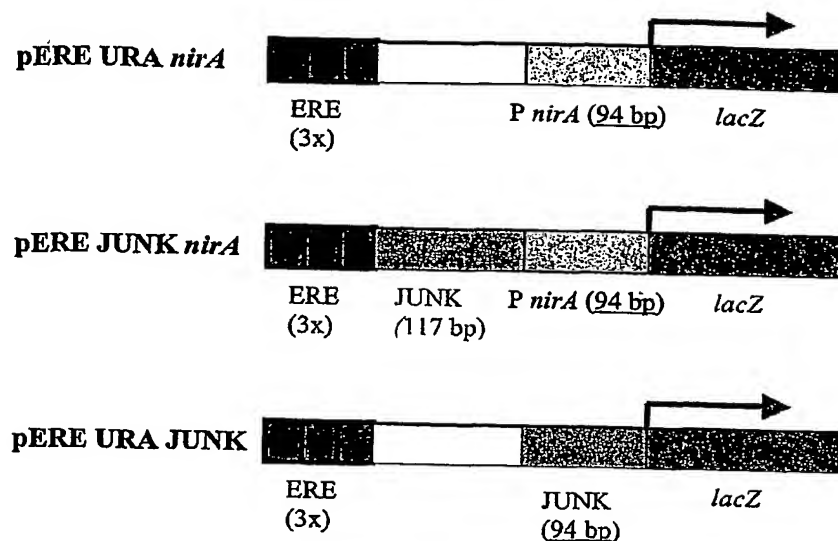
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(54) Title: STEROID RECEPTOR MODULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION



JUNK: β lactamase of *E. coli*

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a novel steroid inducible expression system in a non-mammalian host cell (e.g., fungal) that is independent of metabolic and development regulation. The human estrogen receptor gene expressed in *Aspergillus*, under a constitutive promoter, was shown to be functional. A reporter gene containing regulatory sequences from *Aspergillus*, yeast and a synthetic sequence containing the estrogen receptor binding sites (EREs) was expressed in response to a hormone derivative inducer. In the absence of the inducer, the promoter is silent and depending on the type of construct and inducer concentration the expression level can be modulated from moderate to very strong.

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